fluctuations in ore supplies etc. There has, however, been no shortage of manganese alloys required for steel production in the country.

Telephone connections in Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Delhi

179. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applicants on the waiting list for telephone connections in Jaipur (Rajasthan), Bhubaneswar (Orissa) and in Delhi up to 15th October, 1991;

(b) what steps are being taken by Government for providing new telephone connections indicating the number of existing telephone Exchanges, expanded Exchanges converted into Electronic Exchanges at the above places; and

(c) whether any time limit for providing telephone to all the enlisted applicants at the above places has been fixed by Government; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of applicants on the waiting list for telephone connections upto 15th October, 1991 is as follows:

1.	Jaipur (Rajasthan)	47012
2.	Bhubaneswar (Orissa)	2428
3.	Delhi	322122

(as on 1.11.91)

(b) and (c) The details in respect of existing telephone exchanges/expanded exchanges along with electronic exchanges at Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Delhi is as follows:

	Delhi	Bhubaneswar	Jaipur
1. No. of existing telephone exchanges/expanded exchanges.	71	2	11
2. No. of electronic exchanges.	50	1	8

As per draft 8th Plan proposals expansion programme are being drawn with an objective to provide telephone connections with waiting period not to exceed two years at these places, by the end of the 8th Plan.

Progress of Teesta Project, North Bengal

180. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of Teesta Project in North Bengal;

(b) whether any time limit has been fixed for completion of the project; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Against the latest estimated cost of Rs. 695 crores, an expenditure of about Rs. 352 crores has been incurred upto end of June, 1991. A potential of 25,000 hectares has been created against the planned potential of about 5.27 lakh hectares. The physical progress reported upto the end of June, 1991 is given in the statement attached. (See below).

(b) and (c) The project is scheduled to spill over beyond VIII Plan.